MANAGING ACCESS TO A NETWORK

Abstract of the Disclosure

A network connection on a processor-based system may be managed by a software layer that accommodates for a

5   variety of different types or characteristics of network connections. In effect, the software layer abstracts the characteristics of a variety of different connections and enables the client on the processor-based system to connect without concern for the particular characteristics of the

10   resident connection. In addition, the software layer may determine when to release a connection to the Internet. This may reduce the disruption that may occur when multiple clients use the same connection and one of those clients disconnects the connection, thereby terminating the access

15   to the connection by one or more other clients.

21